

Our local station, KGAN, is already facing a serious of complaints about their blantly pro-Bush and anti-Kerry programming and news reporting. The decision of Sinclair Broadcasting to require their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election demonstrates one of the many dangers of the kind of the media consolidation that has taken place in the U.S. Sinclair, after all, uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. With media consolidation, we see companies like Sinclair subverting democracy in favor of crass self-interest. Their attempts to manipulate the election are outrageous and if the FCC is unwilling to ban them as unfair use of the public airwaves, then the FCC should step in to require that they give fair and equal air space to anti-Bush or pro-Kerry productions. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. I know that I will personally be involved in protesting the license renewal of KGAN - Iowa and Sinclair broadcasting. Thank you.